

IX. Assistance Facilities

Section IX details the facilities available for rendering assistance in Antarctica, including medical, transport services and emergency shelters.

McMurdo Station

Medical Facilities

During the winter-over period there is a four-bed medical and dental facility with 1 doctor and 2 Medical Assistants. These personnel are augmented with up to 12 Emergency Medical Technicians assigned to the Fire Department. During the summer this facility is staffed with 2 Physicians, 1 Physicians' Assistant or Nurse Practitioner, 1 Dentist, 1 Radiographic Technician, 1 Laboratory Technician, 1 Physical Therapist, and 2 Nurses. These personnel are augmented with up to 40 Emergency Medical Technicians assigned to the Fire Department.

Transport Services

From October to mid-December, airlift from McMurdo to Christchurch via C-5, C-141, and C-130 aircraft is available. From mid-December to mid-February, airlift by LC-130 aircraft is available. Transport via surface may be available (see Section II for dates available).

Available Shelter

Over 90 covered structures are available at McMurdo Station.

Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station

Medical Facilities

One civilian doctor and one Physician Assistant are on-station at South Pole year round. There is limited x-ray and medical lab capability on station.

Transport Services

LC-130 aircraft are available only on-call from McMurdo Station from November to mid-February.

Available Shelter

South Pole Station consists of three buildings under a geodesic dome adjoined and connected to a series of four arches also containing buildings. From November through mid-February additional buildings and tent structures are available.

Palmer Station

Medical Facilities

One civilian doctor is assigned to Palmer Station year round. There is limited x-ray and medical lab capability on station.

Transport Services

The R/V LAWRENCE M. GOULD is the primary means of transport to and from Palmer Station. In extreme circumstances, Twin Otter landings are possible on the glacier behind the station.

Available Shelter

Two buildings comprise the available shelter at Palmer Station.

Marble Point Camp

Medical Facilities

None

Transport Services

Helicopter support from McMurdo Station is available (weather dependent).

Available Shelter

Three structures comprise Marble Point Camp with two structures for berthing up to six persons, and one that houses a generator and workshop.